

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims supersedes all previous listings of claims in this matter. Deleted material is shown and inserted material is underlined.

1. (Currently Amended): A system for pre-selecting a folder for a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders for storing messages, the system comprising:

an electronic communication device;

a storage module on the electronic communication device for storing the plurality of folders;

a communication module on the electronic communication device for receiving or transmitting the current message;

a folder pre-selection cache on the electronic communication device having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders;

a message comparison module operating upon the folder pre-selection cache for comparing a comparison criterion, derived from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion of at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;

a folder pre-selection module operating upon the folder pre-selection cache, for pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;

a user-interface means on the electronic communication device for displaying the current message and the pre-selected folder wherein the user-interface means comprises a folder selection module operable by a user, and the folder selection module is operable by the user to allocate the current message to a user selected folder in the plurality of folders;

a cache-updating means operating upon the folder pre-selection cache for updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message, n being a positive integer greater than 1, wherein

each message in the up to n previous messages is allocated to an ~~associated user-selected~~ a user-selected associated folder in the plurality of folders;

the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and,

the cache-updating means is operable, for each message in the up to n messages, to update the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies an ~~associated user-selected~~ a user-selected associated folder ~~previous~~ previously selected for the message.

2. (Original): The system as defined in claim 1 wherein when the message comparison module fails to determine the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache, the folder pre-selection module is operable to select a default folder.
3. (Original): The system as defined in claim 1 further comprising a user-interface means for selectably changing the positive integer n.
4. (Original): The system as defined in claim 1 further comprising a cache-updating means for automatically changing the positive integer n based on available storage space in the storage module for the folder pre-selection cache.
5. (Original): The system as defined in claim 1 further comprising a designation means for designating a plurality of the current messages, wherein the message comparison module is operable to compare at least one comparison criterion, derived from at least one of the plurality of the current messages, with the associated pre-selection criterion of at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache to determine the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,
the folder pre-selection module is operable to pre-select the folder for the plurality of the current messages.
6. (Original): The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the comparison criterion is the current message.
7. (Currently Amended): The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the system electronic communication device is a mobile communication device.
8. (Original): The system as defined in claim 7 wherein the current message is from a server and comprises a server-determined folder identifier for identifying a server-determined folder for storing the current message.

9. (Original): The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the server-determined folder identifier has an assigned weight, the assigned weight being one of a first weight and a second weight: when the server-determined folder identifier is of the first weight, the server-determined folder is pre-selected if the message comparison module fails to determine the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache, and the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry is pre-selected if the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,

when the server-determined folder identifier is of the second weight, the server-determined folder is pre-selected.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented): The system as defined in claim 1 wherein, when a message in the up to n messages is moved from a first folder in the plurality of folders to a second folder in the plurality of folders, the cache-updating means is operable to update the associated folder identification for the corresponding entry from identifying the first folder to identify the second folder.

15. (Previously Presented): The system as defined in claim 1 wherein the folder pre-selection cache comprises an entry replacement sub-module for updating the folder pre-selection cache when a new message is allocated to an associated user-selected folder by discarding an existing entry and adding a new corresponding entry for the new message.

16. (Original): The system as defined In claim 15 wherein the folder pre-selection cache comprises a time-and-date sub-module for, for each message in the up to n messages, providing a time-and-date indicator to the corresponding entry for indicating when the message was allocated to an associated user-selected folder, and the entry replacement sub-module is operable to update the folder pre-selection cache when the new message is allocated to the associated user-selected folder by discarding the existing entry having an oldest time-and-date stamp.

17. (Original): The system as defined in claim 15 further comprising
a derivation sub-module for, for each message in the up to n messages, deriving the associated pre-selection criterion from an associated selected attribute of the message; and,
deriving the comparison criterion from an associated selected attribute of the current message.

18. (Original): The system as defined in claim 17 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, and for the current message, the associated selected attribute of the message comprises one of an associated sender/recipient attribute of the message, an associated subject attribute of the message, a time sent of the message, a message body contents of the message, and a message encoding of the message.

19. (Original): The system as defined in claim 17 wherein the derivation sub-module comprises a hash determination means for, for each message in the up to n messages, deriving the associated pre-selection criterion from the message by applying a hash function to the associated selected attribute; and,
for the current message, deriving the comparison criterion by applying the hash function to the associated selected attribute.

20. (Original): The system as defined in claim 15 wherein each entry in the folder pre-selection cache is ordered according to a search order, the message comparison module is operable to compare the comparison criterion with the associated pre-selection criterion of each entry in the folder pre-selection cache according to the search order to determine a matching entry in the search order having an associated pre-selection criterion matching the comparison criterion; and,

the cache-updating means is operable, when the matching entry is not a first entry in the search order and is the user-selected folder, to advance the matching entry within the search order.

21. (Original): The system as defined in claim 15 further comprising a restoration means for, when information is erased from the folder pre-selection cache, substantially restoring the folder pre-selection cache by processing each message in the plurality of folders in chronological order from an oldest message in the plurality of folders to a youngest message in the plurality of folders.

22. (Currently Amended): A system for pre-selecting a folder for a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders for storing messages, the system comprising:

an electronic communication device;

a storage module on the electronic communication device for storing the plurality of folders;

a communication module on the electronic communication device for receiving or transmitting the current message;

a folder pre-selection cache on the electronic communication device having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders;

a message comparison module operating upon the folder pre-selection cache for comparing a comparison criterion, derived from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion of at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,

a folder pre-selection module operating upon the folder pre-selection cache for pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,

a cache-updating means operating upon the folder pre-selection cache for updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message wherein

each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file;

the plurality of folders comprises a plurality of file folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files;

the folder pre-selection module is operable by the user to select from the plurality of file folders ~~an associated user-selected~~ a user-selected associated file folder for an associated attachment file for the current message;

the folder pre-selection cache has a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and,

the cache-updating means is operable, for each message in the up to n messages, to update the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies ~~an associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented): The system as defined in claim 22 further comprising a derivation sub-module for,

for each message in the up to n messages, deriving the associated pre-selection criterion from an associated selected attribute of the message; and,
deriving the comparison criterion from an associated selected attribute of the current message.

26. (Original): The system as defined in claim 25 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, and for the current message, the associated selected attribute of the message comprises one of an associated sender/recipient attribute of the message, an associated subject attribute of the message, a time sent of the current message, and a message encoding of the message.

27. (Original): The system as defined in claim 26 wherein the derivation sub-module comprises a hash determination means for,

for each message in the up to n messages, deriving the associated pre-selection criterion from the message by applying a hash function to the associated selected attribute; and,

for the current message, deriving the comparison criterion by applying the hash function to the associated selected attribute.

28. (Original): The system as defined in claim 22 further comprising a cache-updating means for updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previously edited attachments stored in the plurality of file folders.

29. (Currently Amended): A method of pre-selecting a folder for storing a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders for storing messages, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a folder pre-selection cache on an electronic communication device having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to include an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders, wherein the folder pre-selection cache is configured based on the up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message, where n is a positive integer greater than 1;
- (b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;
- (c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;
- (d) providing a folder selection function to a user of the electronic communication device for selecting a user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for the current message;
- (e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing the current message; wherein

each message in the up to n messages is allocated to an ~~associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder in the plurality of folders;

the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and,

the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies the ~~associated user-selected folder~~ user-selected associated folder.

30. (Original): The method as defined in claim 29 further comprising pre-selecting a default folder for receiving the current message when step (b) fails to determine the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache.

31. (Original): The method as defined in claim 29 further comprising changing the positive integer n based on available storage space.

32. (Original): The method as defined in claim 29 further comprising designating a plurality of current messages and pre-selecting the folder for storing the plurality of current messages.

33. (Original): The method as defined in claim 29 further comprising reviewing the current message for a server-determined folder identifier having an assigned weight wherein the assigned weight is one of a first weight and a second weight;

when the server-determined folder identifier is of the first weight, pre-selecting the server-determined folder if the message comparison module fails to determine the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache, and pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry

when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection, cache; and,

when the server-determined folder identifier is of the second weight, pre-selecting the server-determined folder.

34. (Original): The method as defined in claim 29 wherein the comparison criterion is the current message.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 29 wherein, when a message in the up to n messages is moved from a first folder in the plurality of folders to a second folder in the plurality of folders, step (a) further comprises updating the associated folder identification for the corresponding entry from identifying the first folder to identify the second folder.

40. (Currently Amended): The method as defined in claim 29 wherein step (a) further comprises updating the folder pre-selection cache when a new message is allocated to an-associated-user-selected folder a user-selected associated folder by discarding an existing entry and adding a new corresponding entry for the new message.

41. (Currently Amended): The method as defined in claim 40 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, step (a) further comprises providing in the corresponding configurable entry a time-and-date indicator for indicating when

the message was message was allocated to an ~~associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder, and the folder pre-selection cache is updated when the new message is allocated to the user-selected folder by discarding the existing entry having an oldest time-and-date indicator and adding the new corresponding entry for the new message.

42. (Original): The method as defined in claim 40 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the message; and,

the comparison criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the current message.

43. (Original): The method as defined in claim 42 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, and for the current message, the associated selected attribute of the message comprises one of an associated sender/recipient attribute of the message, an associated subject attribute of the message, a time sent of the current message, a message body contents of the current message, and a message encoding of the current message.

44. (Original): The method as defined in claim 42 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the message by applying a hash function to the associated selected attribute, and the comparison criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the current message by applying the hash function to the associated selected attribute.

45. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 29 wherein each entry in the folder pre-selection cache is ordered according to a search order step (b) comprises comparing the comparison criterion with the associated pre-selection criterion of each entry in the folder pre-selection cache according to the search order;

and step (c) comprises determining a matching entry in the search order having an associated pre-selection criterion matching the comparison criterion, and pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the first entry;

wherein the method further comprises, when the matching entry is not a first entry in the search order and is the user-selected folder, advancing the matching entry within the search order.

46. (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 29 further comprising, when information is erased from the folder pre-selection cache, substantially restoring the folder pre-selection cache by, for each message in the plurality of folders in chronological order from an oldest message in the plurality of folders to a youngest message in the plurality of folders, performing steps (a), (b) and (c).

47. (Currently Amended): A method of pre-selecting a folder for storing a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files, the method comprising:

providing a folder pre-selection cache on an electronic communication device having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to have an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders;

for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;

pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,

updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message wherein each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file;

the folder pre-selection cache has a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and,

the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies ~~an associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 47 further comprising a derivation sub-module for,

for each message in the up to n messages, deriving the associated pre-selection criterion from an associated selected attribute of the message; and,

deriving the comparison criterion from an associated selected attribute of the current message.

51. (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 47 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, and for the current message, the associated selected attribute of the message comprises one of an associated sender/recipient attribute of the message, an associated subject attribute of the message, a time sent of the current message, and a message encoding of the message.

52. (Original): The method as defined in claim 51 wherein for each message in the up to n messages, the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the message by applying a hash function to the associated selected attribute, and the comparison criterion is derived from an associated selected attribute of the current message by applying the hash function to the associated selected attribute.

53. (Original): The method as defined in claim 47 further comprising updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previously edited attachments stored in the plurality of file folders.

54. (Currently Amended): A computer program product for use on a computer system to pre-select a folder for a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders, the computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means recorded on the recording medium for configuring the computer to perform the steps of:

(a) providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to include an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders;

(b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and,

(c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection ~~cache~~cache;

(d) providing a folder selection function to a user for selecting a user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for the current message; and,

(e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing the current message; wherein

each message in the up to n messages is allocated to an ~~associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder in the plurality of folders;

the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and,

the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies the ~~associated user-selected folder~~ user-selected associated folder.

55. (Currently Amended): A computer program product for use on a computer system to pre-select a folder for a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders, the computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means recorded on the recording medium for configuring the computer to perform the steps of:

(a) providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders;

(b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;

(c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache;

(d) providing a folder selection function to a user for selecting a user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for an associated attachment file for the current message;

(e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing an associated attachment file for the current message; wherein

each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file;

the plurality of folders comprises a plurality of file folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files;

the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and,

the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies ~~an associated user-selected folder~~ a user-selected associated folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.